

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 2, 3, 13, 14, 18 and 20 as indicated below.

Please cancel claims 1, 12, 16 and 19 without prejudice.

Please add new claim 21 as presented below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (currently amended) An electrical connector comprising:

a plug including a threaded sleeve, the threaded sleeve including an external thread having at least one threadless area; and

a socket connectable to the plug and including a union nut, the union nut including an internal thread configured for threaded engagement with the external thread of the plug;

wherein the internal thread of the union nut is configured to be received by the at least one threadless area and tightened onto the external thread; The electrical connector as recited in claim 1 wherein the at least one threadless area includes a plurality of threadless areas; and wherein the internal thread includes a plurality of threaded areas matching the threadless areas.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The electrical connector as recited in claim [[1]] 2 wherein ~~the at least one threadless area includes a plurality of threadless areas and wherein the internal thread includes a plurality of threaded areas matching the threadless areas, the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas being~~ are disposed at a respective same angle relative to a respective axial connector axis of the plug and the socket.

Claim 4 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 2 wherein the threaded areas are disposed in an even distribution at a circumference of the threaded sleeve.

Claim 5 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 3 wherein the threaded

areas are disposed in an even distribution at a circumference of the threaded sleeve.

Claim 6 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 2 wherein the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas are disposed in an uneven distribution at a respective circumference of the threaded sleeve and the union nut.

Claim 7 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 3 wherein the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas are disposed in an uneven distribution at a respective circumference of the threaded sleeve and the union nut.

Claim 8 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 4 wherein the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas have a respective different length in a circumferential direction so that a full revolution is required for disengaging a connection of the plug and socket.

Claim 9 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 5 wherein the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas have a respective different length in a circumferential direction so that a full revolution is required for disengaging a connection of the plug and socket.

Claim 10 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 6 wherein the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas have a respective different length in a circumferential direction so that a full revolution is required for disengaging a connection of the plug and socket.

Claim 11 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 7 wherein the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas have a respective different length in a circumferential direction so that a full revolution is required for disengaging a connection of the plug and socket.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:
a plug including a threaded sleeve, the threaded sleeve including an external thread
having at least one threadless area; and
a socket connectable to the plug and including a union nut, the union nut including an

internal thread configured for threaded engagement with the external thread of the plug;
wherein the internal thread of the union nut is configured to be received by the at least
one threadless area and tightened onto the external thread; the external thread includes a
respective individual first thread on each side of the at least one threadless area, the
individual first threads being aligned with each other; The electrical connector as recited in
claim 12 wherein: the internal thread includes respective individual second threads; and the
individual first and second threads each have a respective chamfer at a start of the respective
thread so as to enable an easier insertion of a counterthread area when tightening the internal
thread onto the external thread.

Claim 14 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:

a plug including a threaded sleeve, the threaded sleeve including an external thread
having at least one threadless area; and
a socket connectable to the plug and including a union nut, the union nut including an
internal thread configured for threaded engagement with the external thread of the plug;
wherein the internal thread of the union nut is configured to be received by the at least
one threadless area and tightened onto the external thread; the external thread includes a
respective individual first thread on each side of the at least one threadless area, the
individual first threads being aligned with each other; The electrical connector as recited in
claim 12 wherein: the internal thread includes respective individual second threads; and the
individual first and second threads each include a respective sharp edge at an end of the
respective thread so as to prevent turning past a tangential removal position when unscrewing
the internal thread from the external thread.

Claim 15 (original): The electrical connector as recited in claim 14 wherein the plug and the
socket are configured so that an O-ring seal disposed between the plug and the socket causes
at least one of the plug and the socket to be lifted slightly out of a respective flight of the
internal or external thread so as to prevent a turning of the internal or the external thread past
a tangential removal position.

Claim 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (original): An electrical connector comprising:

a plug including a threaded sleeve, the threaded sleeve including an external thread
not having a threadless area; and

a socket connectable to the plug and including a union nut, the union nut including an internal thread configured for threaded engagement with the external thread of the plug, the internal thread having at least one threadless area.

Claim 18 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:

a plug including a threaded sleeve, the threaded sleeve including an external thread having ~~at least one threadless area~~ a plurality of threadless areas; and

a socket disposed in a stationary housing component and connectable to the plug, the socket including an internal thread configured for threaded engagement with the external thread of the plug;

wherein the internal thread of the socket ~~is configured to receive the at least one threadless area~~ includes a plurality of threaded areas matching and configured to receive the threadless areas for tightening the external thread onto the internal thread.

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (currently amended): The electrical connector as recited in claim 18 wherein ~~the at least one threadless area includes a plurality of threadless areas and wherein the internal thread includes a plurality of threaded areas matching the threadless areas~~, the threadless areas and the matching threaded areas ~~being~~ are disposed at a respective same angle relative to a respective axial connector axis of the plug and the socket.

Claim 21 (new): An electrical connector comprising:

a plug including a threaded sleeve, the threaded sleeve including an external thread having at least one threadless area; and

a socket connectable to the plug and including a union nut, the union nut including an internal thread configured for threaded engagement with the external thread of the plug;

wherein the internal thread of the union nut includes at least one threaded area matching the at least one threadless area and configured to be received by the at least one threadless area and tightened onto the external thread.